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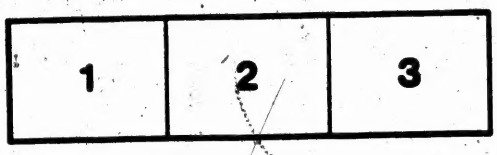


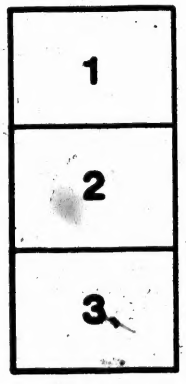


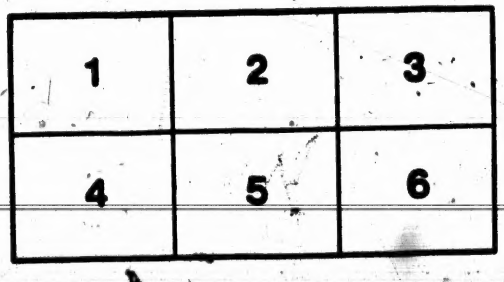

# THE STANDARD DRAIN PIPE CO.

## St. Johns, P. Q.—Limited.

*We beg to draw your attention to the following report from the Montreal Gazette of the 15th December, 1888:*

"INVESTIGATION INTO THE CHARGES AGAINST DRAIN INSPECTOR LOWE.

"An investigation in to the charge of alleged neglect and of exceeding his duty by Mr. Charbonneau, and formulated by Ald. Brunet, against Mr. James Lowe, drain inspector, was opened yesterday afternoon before a sub-committee composed of Ald. Hamelin (chairman), Wilson and Brunet.

"Mr. G. W. Stephens, formerly chairman of the road department, acted as counsel for Mr. Lowe. Mr. Charbonneau's complaint was that Mr. Lowe neglected to visit a drain after getting due notice, and that when he did see fit to visit he refused to accept, condemning the pipes and workmanship (according to Mr. Charbonneau) without cause. Complainant gave evidence in support of his charge.

Mr. James Lowe, drain inspector, testified to examining the drain on the same day the notice was handed him, namely, August 18th. Made three visits, namely, on August 18th, 21st and 22nd. Always visited the city hall twice a day and received whatever requests to visit drains had come in during his absence. Sometimes examined as many as fifty drains per day, but averaged about thirty in summer. Was sure that Mr. Charbonneau's request did not reach him before the 18th. When he arrived at the drain witness found the earth caved in and the end of one pipe sticking out of the ground. A man told him that the earth had fallen in. Went again, but found no attempt had been made to uncover the drain; found three additional pipes, fresh laid, in the uncovered part, and, seeing that these lengths were pipes that he had forbidden the use of scores of times in every part of the city, refused to accept them. The stuff used as cement in the joints could be easily removed; it was very poor cement. The uncovered condemned pipes were finally taken out, and Canadian pipes substituted; but as he presumed the covered up portion contained equally faulty pipes witness refused to accept. The condemned pipes had joints that were too small to hold cement. If forced to leave over one or two he always went to them the first thing next morning, before going to the city hall. Had condemned Canadian pipes two or three years ago, because they were badly made. The moulds had since been altered, and the pipes were now all right. Only one brand of Scotch pipes was equal to the Canadian brand now. Mr. Charbonneau was not using that brand. The general run of Scotch pipes sent here were only "culls." Some were not even glazed inside. A smoke test proved them useless; the smoke would come through the middle. Had blocked Scotch pipes at each end and filled them with water, when all the liquid would filter out in thirty-six hours through the pores. Had been ten years inspector of private drains. Now that the main drains were trapped it was of more importance than ever that private drains be perfect, else all the foul air from the sewers got into the houses.

"To Mr. Stephens—Had been engaged on the Craig street tunnel. Had 27 years' experience in drain construction in this city. Never had any committee investigate his conduct before. Considered this a petty matter.

"Mr. Stephens offered to give evidence on behalf of Mr. Lowe, whom he had known for many years as one of the most honest, painstaking, trustworthy servants the city had."

*It is only necessary to add to the foregoing that the Canadian Pipes above referred to were manufactured by us, as no other Canadian Pipes are known in Montreal.*

ST. JOHNS, P. Q., Dec. 22, 1888.

W. C. TROTTER,
Pres't. S. D. P. Co.